

EXCALIBUR™

Chris Claremont / Alon Davis / Paul Neary

THE SWORD IS DRAWN™

\$4.50 U.S. \$6.25 Can.

MARVEL
\$4.50 U.S.
6.25 Can.

EXCALIBUR™

by Claremont, Davis & Neary



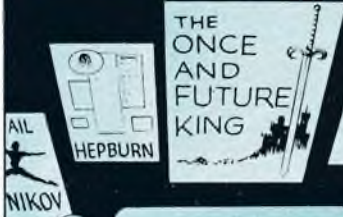
KITTY
PRYDE.

TOSS-TURN

FIDGET TO AND FRO

TICK-TOCK, THE CLOCK-
TIME DRAGS, SLOWER BY
THE MINUTE, THROUGH
A NIGHT THAT LASTS
FOREVER.

ALL SHE WANTS IS SLEEP.



SO MUCH-- TOO
MUCH-- TO ASK,
A SMALL SLICE
OF OBLIVION?

TO TAKE
THE HURT
AWAY.

BUT, BECAUSE
SHE HURTS--



--THOUGHTS RACING, IMAGES
REPLAYING, ETCHING THEM-
SELVES (THOSE FINAL, AWFUL
MOMENTS. HOW SHE HATES
THEM) INTO HER MIND'S-EYE-

--SHE CAN'T.

SHE'D CRY.

IF SHE
HAD ANY
TEARS
LEFT



EXCALIBUR

TIME IS MONEY, PEOPLE!

X-DIRECTOR

LET'S GET
THAT SET
RIGGED AND
READY!

I CAN'T
KEEP MY
ACTORS
WAITING
FOREVER!!

UNDERSTUDY

OR PERHAPS, MIRACULOUSLY, FOUND THE ANSWER TO HER MOST HEARTFELT PRAYERS.

MOJO'S
NEW
WORLD
PIX







AND WAKING DOESN'T ALWAYS MAKE THINGS BETTER.

RACHEL--! I DON'T UNDERSTAND--

--THIS HAS TO BE A DREAM-- ONLY IT FEELS SO REAL.

AND THE X-MEN-- MORE PUPPETS THAN PEOPLE-- TRAVESTIES OF THE HEROES I REMEMBER.

WHEN THE REALITY NO LONGER EXISTS...

...EXPLOITERS CAN TAKE THE LEGEND...

...AND MAKE IT WHATEVER THEY WANT, GOOD OR BAD.

RACHEL! YOU'RE NOT IN THIS PRODUCTION!

YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE AT STARDOM, BABY PHOENIX, AND BLEW IT!

WHEN YOUR TEAMMATES NEEDED YOU MOST...

...YOU RAN OUT ON THEM!

MY MISTAKE--
--MY SHAME--

--BUT NOW I'VE A CHANCE...
...TO MAKE AMENDS.



NOT SO FAST, YOUNG LADY.



NOBODY LEAVES WITHOUT MY PERMISSION.

YOU CAN'T HOLD ME!

CARE TO BET YOUR LIFE ON THAT?

STOP IT!

PROFESSOR-- X-MEN--

--YOU'RE TEARING HER APART!!



SHE'S OUR FRIEND!

IF SHE STAYS OR GOES, IT SHOULD BE BY HER FREE CHOICE!

IT'S WRONG TO FORCE HER!

AND I WON'T LET YOU--!

IF I CAN REACH RACHEL-- TOUCH HER--

--MY POWER SHOULD PHASE HER THROUGH HER CHAINS--!



BLESS YOU, KITTY!

BE SEEING YOU--

--MAYBE SOONER THAN YOU THINK!



THAT, YOUNG LADY, WAS VERY NAUGHTY!

SURE SEEMED LIKE A GREAT IDEA...

AND I'M SURE YOU KNOW...

...AT THE TIME.

...WHAT HAPPENS TO NAUGHTY LITTLE GIRLS.



WARWOLVES!

MANIFEST YOURSELVES--

--AND TEACH THE BRAT A LESSON!

NO!

THE WALL--!

I'M SOLID AGAIN-- I CAN'T PHASE--



--CAN'T ESCAPE-- --X-MEN--

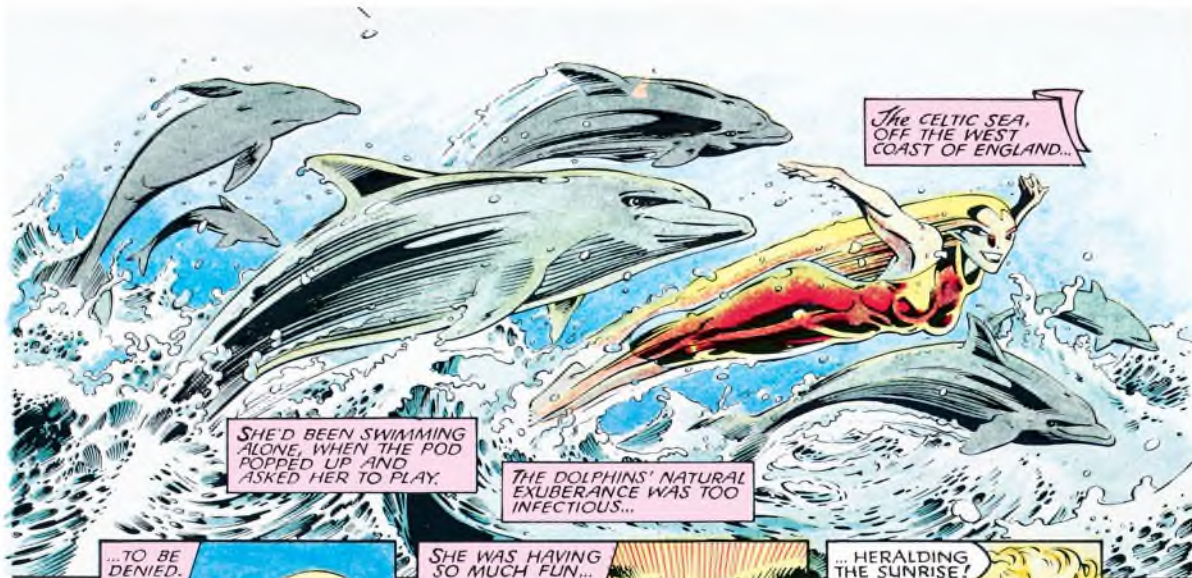
--ALL MONSTERS--

--NO KEEP AWAY DON'T

NO PLEASE NO!







The CELTIC SEA,
OFF THE WEST
COAST OF ENGLAND...

SHE'D BEEN SWIMMING
ALONE, WHEN THE POD
POPPED UP AND
ASKED HER TO PLAY.

THE DOLPHINS' NATURAL
EXUBERANCE WAS TOO
INFECTIOUS...



...TO BE
DENIED.

SHE KNEW
NEXT TO
NOTHING OF
THE SEA.

SO THEY DELIGHTED
IN TEACHING HER ITS
WONDERS AND MYSTERIES.



SHE WAS HAVING
SO MUCH FUN...

...SHE LOST
ALL TRACK
OF TIME.

UNTIL...

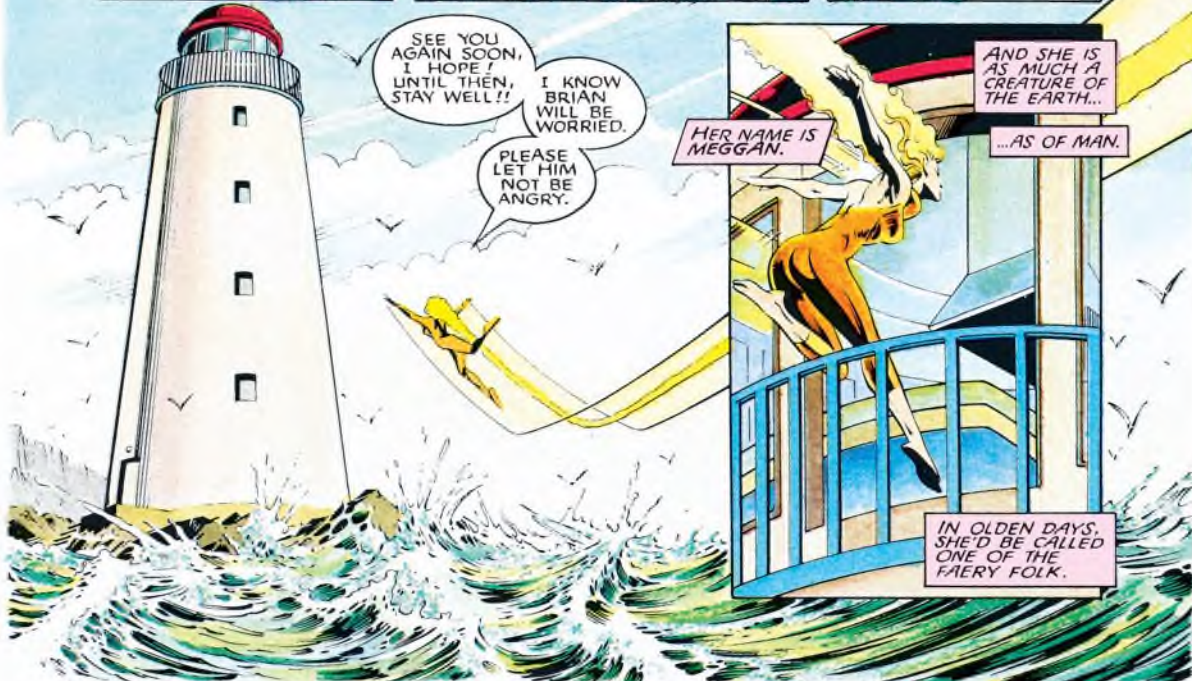
A BIRD
OF
FIRE...



... HERALDING
THE SUNRISE!

HOW BEAUTI-
FUL!

BUT HAVE
I BEEN AWAY
SO LONG?
FAREWELL,
FINFRIENDS!



SEE YOU
AGAIN SOON,
I HOPE!
UNTIL THEN,
STAY WELL!!

I KNOW
BRIAN
WILL BE
WORRIED.

PLEASE
LET HIM
NOT BE
ANGRY.

HER NAME IS
MEGGAN.

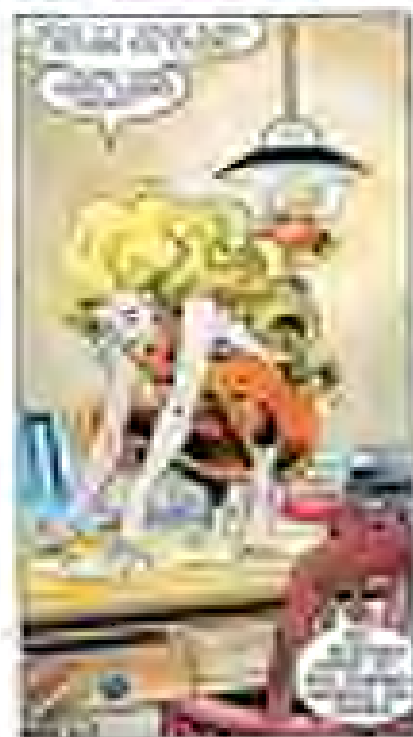
AND SHE IS
AS MUCH A
CREATURE OF
THE EARTH...

...AS OF MAN.

IN OLDEN DAYS,
SHE'D BE CALLED
ONE OF THE
FAERY FOLK.











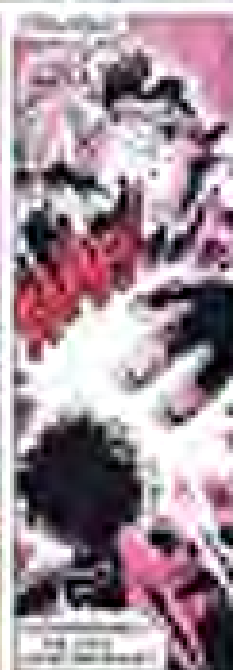
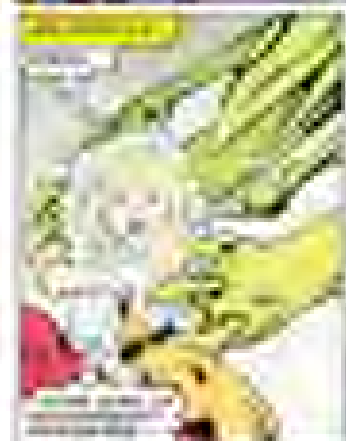


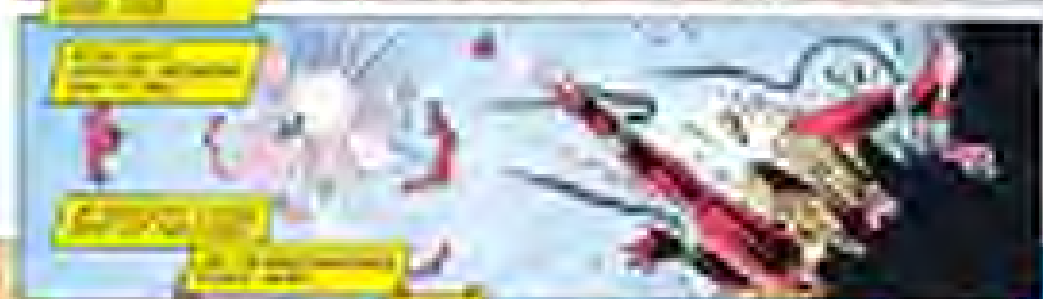














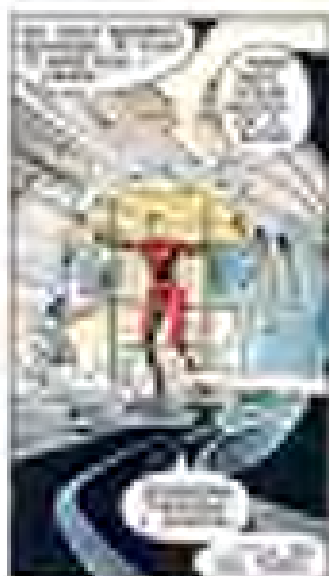










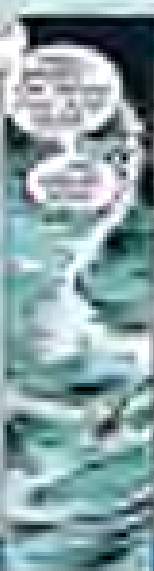


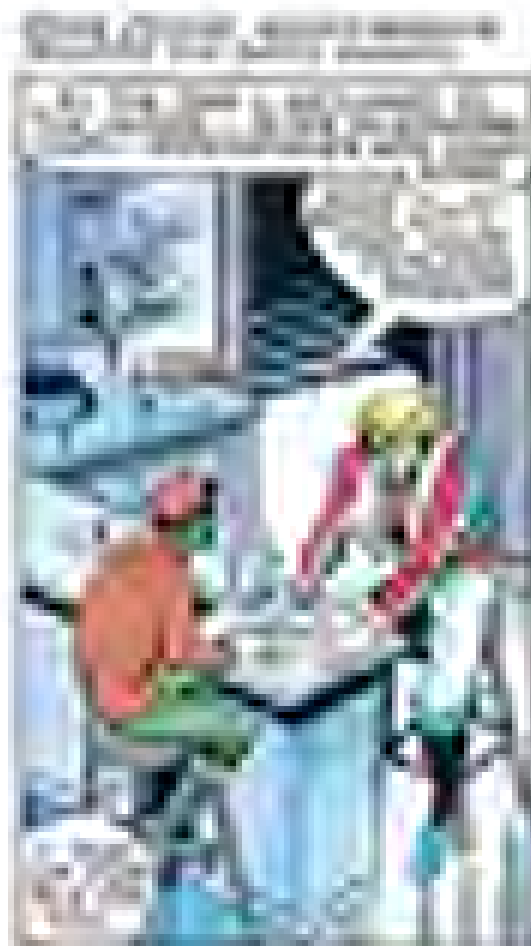


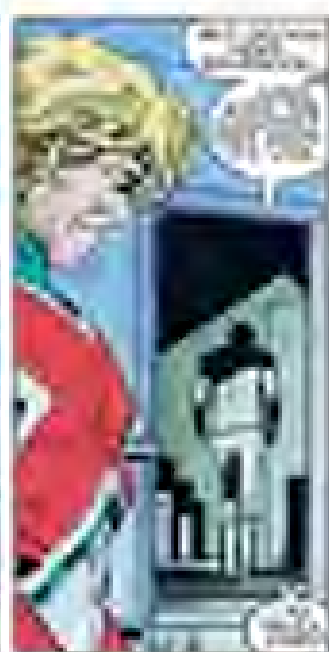
"I'm here!"

"I'm here!"

"I'm here!"









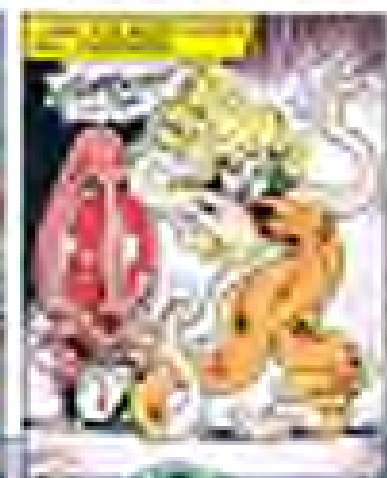


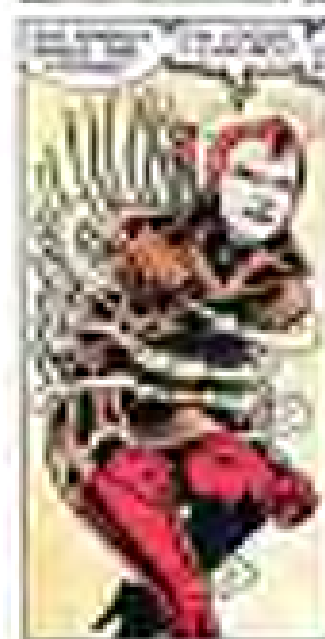














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2





THE DREAM WE HAD, NIGHT-CRAWLER-- REMEMBER, BACK BEFORE THIS CRAZY CAPER BEGAN-- IN IT, RACHEL SAID TO ME:

"...WHEN THE REALITY NO LONGER EXISTS, EXPLOITERS CAN TAKE THE LEGEND..."

"... AND MAKE IT WHATEVER THEY WANT..."

"... GOOD OR BAD."



ARE YOU SUGGESTING WE TAKE THE X-MEN'S PLACE?

NOBODY CAN DO THAT.

BUT KING ARTHUR HAD A DREAM, TOO.



OF A WORLD WHERE NIGHT SERVED RIGHT, INSTEAD OF SUBJUGATING IT.

HIS KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE WERE THE AGENTS OF THAT DREAM...

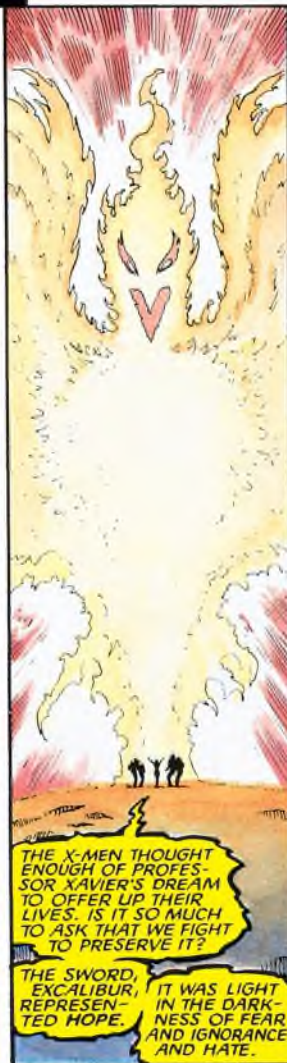
...AND HIS SWORD, EXCALIBUR, THE SYMBOL OF IT.



HE DIED, THE TABLE WAS DESTROYED, HIS KNIGHTS MOSTLY SLAIN-- YET THE DREAM SURVIVED.

THEY BECAME LEGEND--

--AND THE SWORD, THE MEANS OF KEEPING THE LEGEND ALIVE AND VITAL THROUGH THE AGES.



THE X-MEN THOUGHT ENOUGH OF PROFESSOR XAVIER'S DREAM TO OFFER UP THEIR LIVES. IS IT SO MUCH TO ASK THAT WE FIGHT TO PRESERVE IT?

THE SWORD, EXCALIBUR, REPRESENTED HOPE.

IT WAS LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS OF FEAR AND IGNORANCE AND HATE.



DO WE WANT--

--HAVE WE THE RIGHT--

--TO SNUFF IT OUT?





WHAT
THE
HECK!

COUNT
ME IN--

--WITH
ALL MY
HEART!

AND SO-- WITH LAUGHTER
AND TRANSCENDENT JOY--
THE DREAM IS RECONSECRATED...

...AND
EXCALIBUR...

...ONCE MORE
REDRAWN.

...THAT MOST ANCIENT
AND NOBLE BLADE...

The
BEGINNING!